



OVER AND UNDER ACROSS OKLAHOMA

Volume 12 Issue 4

Dedicated to the preservation, promotion and education of the art of basketry.

August 2012

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Greetings, BWGOK Members,

I'm starting to enjoy retirement and doing just what I want to do. That is already including lots more weaving. I just reviewed the minutes of the last meeting to see what reminders were in order, and I found several.

First, we agreed to make and fill our Positive Tomorrows baskets outside the meeting. So we need to make them right now, fill them up, and bring the finished baskets to the meeting on September 8. Marcia and Jo Ann will see that they get donated to Positive Tomorrows at the right time.

Another is our BWGOK elections. We will be electing Vice President and Secretary at the September meeting. We also need someone good at spreadsheets and mail merge to take over the duties of Membership Chairperson. Please at least come with ideas about these positions. If you would be interested in helping, let Jo Ann know as soon as possible.

Please come to the meeting on September 8. The program sounds really good and helpful for this time in our artistic careers. Bring something good for lunch, and I'll see you there.

Onita

Note from the Editor:

What a summer we have had. It was so hot it was a good time to work inside on baskets. We are starting a couple of new sections to the newsletter. First I thought it would be interesting to hear about when BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma first got started so we will have a history section. Secondly we will have an instructor interview section where we will get to know about some of our long time instructors and some of the newer ones. Hope you enjoy these new additions. As always, please send me pictures and articles of basket interest. Janet

BWGOK Officers

President	Onita Lynch
Vice President	Julie Gates
Treasurer	Pat Horsey
Co-Secretary	Jo Ann Miller & Becky Walker

Volunteer Positions

Librarian	Marcia Balleweg
Historian	Katheryn Kelly
Membership	Linda Tickle
Newsletter	Janet Newman
	djnj3227@sbcglobal.net

BWGOK meetings are held at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum located near I-44 and NE 63rd Street in Oklahoma City. The meetings are held the second Saturday of every odd month at 10:00AM.

Meetings generally start with the business meeting followed by a basket raffle, then lunch. Everyone brings a covered dish. After lunch we work on the scheduled project or whatever you bring to weave on. We are usually done by 2-3 p.m. Then cleanup!

BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma

July 2012 Minutes

The BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma met in the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum on July 14, 2010. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 by Onita Lynch, President. Members & guests were welcomed. Guests were Bill Denney, Marty Gwin n and Dana Brown.

Minutes of the May 12, 2012 were approved as printed in the June 2012 newsletter.

Treasurer's report was presented by Pat Horsey as follows:

PRIMARY ACCOUNT: Balance as of 29 April 2012	<u>\$3023.01</u>
Payments: Quick Print Newsletter	50.32
Julie Gates – July project	39.84
Rena Vickery – printing old newsletter	96.69
DEPOSITS: Dues	75.00
Dues	<u>114.96</u>
BALANCE: AS OF 30 June 2012	\$3026.12
Retreat Account: Balance as of 29 April 2012	\$3280.99
Payments: Dues from PayPal Retreat Account	114.96
DEPOSITS: May 12 Raffle	71.85
Ads purchased for Catalog	100.00
Venders for Retreat	<u>350.00</u>
BALANCE: AS OF 30 JUNE 2012	\$3715.88
TOTAL BALANCE:	\$6741.00

Committee Reports: Weavers' Weekend by Marcia Balleweg

64 registered

Most classes have made

Shawnee Tourism Bureau will present the welcome bags

Vendors & Teachers will be arriving 10-8:00 on Thursday

Holiday inn Express – host hotel – lobby will be available for weaving in the evening. (405) 275-8880 – request the weaving weekend rate!

Meals: Breakfast at the hotel. Lunch – included in the registration fee. Dinner on our own – several restaurants located nearby. We can bring our own food.

Programs: presented by Julie Gates

September 8th – photographer – bring your camera and baskets that you would like to photograph. Bring baskets filled for the Positive Tomorrow Project. Dimensions & gift items will be listed in the newsletter.

November 10th – Janet Newman will teach a woven snowman.

January 12, 2013—Marcia will present a map basket.

Newsletter presented by Janet Newman – Sending newsletters by e-mail saves about \$70.00 per issue. Suggestions for contributions: interviews, history of the guild, recipes, patterns, classes, groups that meet for weaving include a contact person/number.

Membership – presented by Linda Tickle. We appreciate the skills and work that Linda has done with the membership list. She has requested a replacement for this position in September. Member discussion – Sending in membership fee with

registration for the weavers' weekend is for the current year as in 2012. BWGOK membership year is from January – December. Linda made the motion, Jewell the second and the motion passed.

Pattern Library – Marcia brought the library to the meeting.

Old Business: Quilt Show will be moved from the Convention Center to the OKC Fairgrounds in January. A motion was made, seconded and passed to rent tables and chairs from the organizers.

State Fair: September 18, Tuesday, will be the guild demonstration day from 4-8:00 p.m. If you are planning to enter baskets in the fair the paperwork needs to be sent in by August 15 (We are sorry that the newsletter will be printed after this date.) Discussion concerning baskets – this should be an original work.

Raffle: Jewell Cowan won the doorknob basket woven by Jo Ann Miller.

Program: Doorknob basket pattern by Sandy Atkinson was used by permission for the program. The guild library has the DVD presentation, but sad to say that the computer that was available to show it – didn't work!!

OWED TO THE SPELL CHECKER

I have a spell checker,
It came with my PC.
It plane lee marks four my review
Miss steaks aye can not sea.

Eye ran this poem threw it,
Your sure reel glad two no
It's vary polished in it's weigh,
My checker tolled me sew.

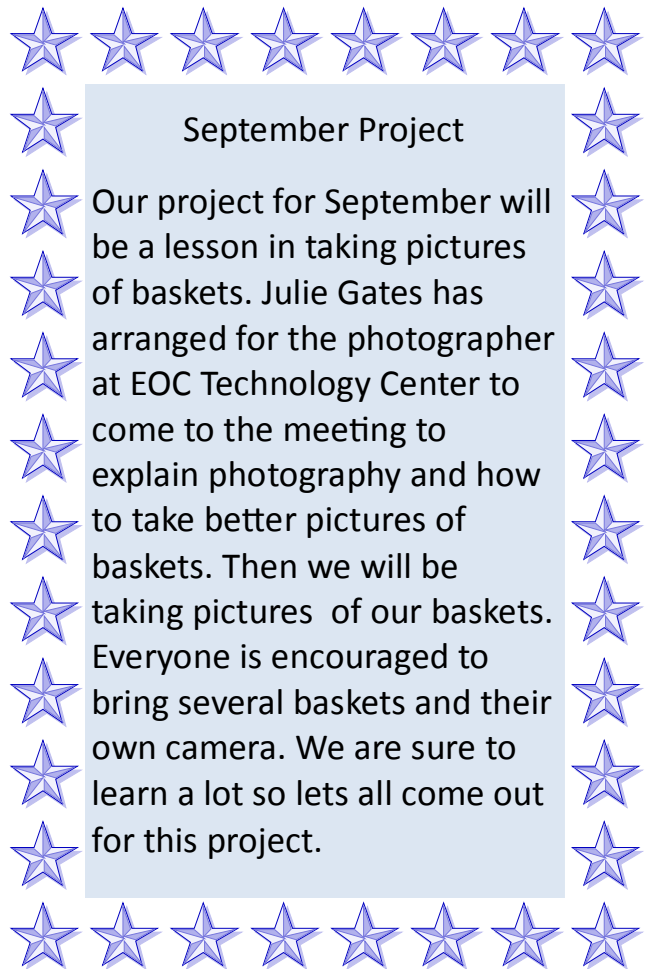
A checker is a bless sing,
It freeze yew lodes of thyme.
It helps me right awl stiles to reed.

To rite with care is sure a feet
Of which won should be proud.
And wee mussed dew the best wee can,
Sew flaws are not aloud.

And now bee cause my spelling
Is checked with such grate flare,
There are know faults with in my cite,
Of none eye am a wear.

Each frays come posed up on my screen
Eye trussed to bee a joule
The checker poured o'er every word
To cheque sum spelling rule.

That's why aye brake in two averse
By righting wants to please.
Sow nowewe sea why aye dew prays
Such soft wear for pea seas!



Remember to bring your Positive Tomorrow Basket finished and filled with kitchen items. Please no food or perishables.



These were the very first members to attend an Oklahoma BasketWeavers meeting on September 26, 1998. They were (not in order) Dianne Bielstein, Marcia Balleweg, Betty Bower, Pat Brainard, Yvonne Cornelius, Dale Garnett, Mary Garnett, Shirley Hill, Roxanne Joslin, Jo Ann Miller, Wanda Noble, Karla Rickner, Sue Scott, Mary Stone, Nancy Trait-Lira.

14, 1998. Many things were accomplished at this meeting that set the foundation for the present guild. The formation of the by-laws was covered. There was an election of officers. The first president was Marcia Balleweg. The first vice president was Shirley Hill. The first secretary was Debbie Shorter. The first treasurer was Edana Caldwell.

Jo Ann Miller along with Mary Pennington were the first instructors to teach a class at a guild meeting. They taught a Woven Angel. There were 23 weavers and 2 guests at the first meeting. They also planned a schedule for the next year.

Marcia Balleweg offered to be the first newsletter editor. The first newsletter was published on November 14, 1998. The name of Over Under Across Oklahoma was not chosen until the fourth issue in April of 1999. The first issue listed the new officers. The first pattern in a newsletter was a Small Elbow Basket Christmas Ornament reprinted with permission from Weaver's Words Vol. 1 Issue 22. The author was Lois Keener. There was a long article about Freehand Shaping by Judith Olney that continued into the second newsletter. (This article can be found on the Missouri Basketweavers Guild website at www.unionpoint.net/mbg/shaping-olney.html.) It was announced that Linda Lou Alexander would teach a small Double Wall Basket at the January meeting. This basket would use #0 and #1 reed.

The newsletter also listed Interesting Web Sites, Birthdays and Basket Events around the country. Things haven't changed much.

Wicker Woman, Cathryn Peters, has donated much information for the newsletters over the years. Many of you probably do not know she graduated from John Marshall High School in Oklahoma City and moved on to own a small wicker restoration and chair caning shop in Zunbro Falls, NM. Thanks to Cathryn for all your help over the years.

Bernice Kopel taught the Simonole Cross Stitch at the May 1999 meeting.

Silver Dollar City hosted its first basket weavers conference on May 21-23, 1999 with 26 instructors. Tuition was \$65.

The first 2 meetings in 1999 were canceled because of bad weather. By the May meeting things were looking up and Positive Tomorrows was voted as the first service project. It was decided that September would be the month for the project and Nancy Tait-TaLair would organize it. Peggy Brennan had an article on Native Materials in the June

Our History - A Walk Down Memory Lane

The first year of the BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma

By Janet Newman

I spent a day at Oklahoma Basket Supply going over the first year of newsletters for the guild. It was very interesting to read about those first meetings and see what was in the first newsletters. Even more interesting for me was to see names of people I did not realize have been around the guild from the beginnings.

The first meeting of the BasketWeavers Guild of Oklahoma was September 26, 1998. It was held at the National Cowboy Hall of Fame. This has always been the location of meeting for the guild. The location is now know as the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum. Thank you to the museum for all the years of support.

The purpose of this first meeting was to decide if the participants wanted to form an official guild. Looks like they succeeded because here we are 14 years later.

The second meeting of the new guild was held on November

Continuation of Our History– a Walk Down Memory Lane

newsletter.

The August 1999 issue of the newsletter stated that Lynne McElroy would teach Hugs and Kisses. This was the first time that volunteers were asked to demonstrate at the Oklahoma State Fair. Peggy Brennan again talked about Native Materials.

In the December 1999 issue, Monica Impellizzeri, owner of Baskets 'N the Works in Conrow, TX shared a basket called, "The Little Gift Basket." It was a 4 1/2" x 41/2" basket with a Christmas Tree on the side.

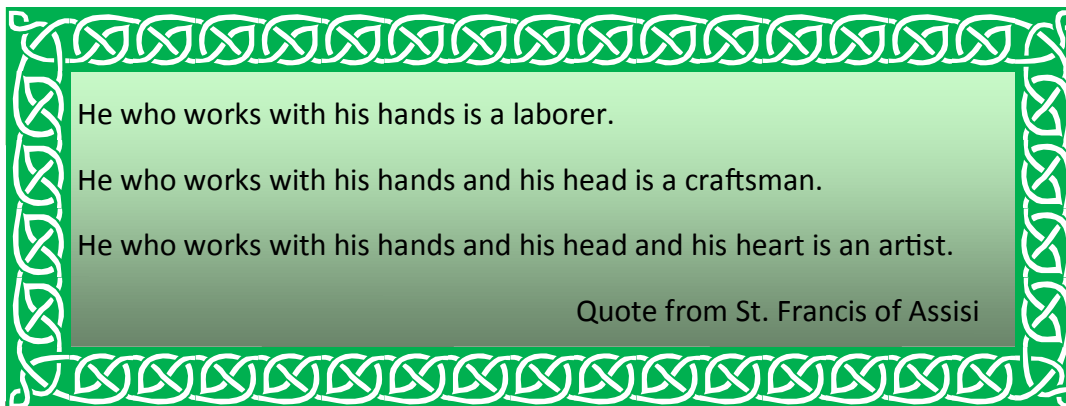
Sue Scott was the first contributor to "Members Ask???" She wanted to know how to introduce 38 second graders to a single wall Cherokee basket. She asked if she was insane. The answer was "Yes".

There was a list of places to go to on the internet to find free patterns. I find it interesting that many of those places no longer exist.

There was a discussion to be talked about at the January 2000 meeting about the categories for the Oklahoma State Fair for judging baskets. In the past the categories were Basketry-Reed and Basketry-Unusual. It would be proposed to change it to Basketry Reed, Basketry Natural Materials and Basketry Original Design.

Membership Renewals were also discussed. Dues were set at \$12 and were due by January 31.

This visit to the past was most interesting and exciting. I hope you have enjoyed it. I will continue to add items from other years. A collection of all the old newsletters, retreat catalogs, and guild correspondence has been compiled by Marcia Balleweg into 4 notebooks and is stored in a file cabinet at her shop. If you are interested in seeing any of this information it is available when the shop is open. A big thank you goes to Marcia, Janet Newman and any one else who has worked to organize these notebooks and the file cabinet.



Schedule of Events:

Sept. 7-9, 2012: Camp Tuck-a-Basket Land of Lincoln Basketweavers Association. Blooming, IL; www.llbwa.com/events.htm.

Sept. 13-16, 2012: 2012 Weaving Odyssey, Gettysburg, PA; www.basketry.hoestead.com.

Oct. 13-14, 2012: Kentucky guild of Artists and Craftsmen's Fall Craft Fair, Berea, KY; www.kyguild.org/fair.html.

Oct. 17-21, 2012: Columbia Basin Basketry Guild Tidal Twinings Retreat, Rockaway Beach, OR; www.basketryguild.org/retreat.

Oct. 26-28, 2012: Weaving Your Cares Behind Retreat, Bedford, PA; www.bedfordbasketguild.com.

Jan. 17-20, 2013: Tidewater Basketry Guild Guilders Weave, Newport News, VA; www.tidewaterbasketryguild.org.

Feb. 1-3, 2013: Georgia Basketry Assoc. 2013 Convention "Weave Me the Sunshine", Roswell, GA; www.georgiabasketry.com.

March 13-17, 2013: Northwest Basket Weavers Spring Retreat, Port Orchard, WA; www.nwbasketweavers.org.

March 21-24, 2013: North Carolina Basketmakers Assoc. North Carolina; www.ncbasketmakers.comconvention.html.

The Legend of the Kudzu Vine

Native to the Orient, the Kudzu vine grows 12" *daily*. Asians use every part of the plant: Kudzu roots, weighing up to 400 pounds, are ground into powder and used as a thickener in cooking. Vines are processed and exposed as grass-cloth wallpaper and are woven into expensive clothing, once used as gifts for emperors. Leaves have been used for hundreds of years in medicinal teas and a wide variety of foods. The purple flowers smell like grape bubble gum and are used in jelly-making.

Kudzu is now a fast growing vine in the Southeastern U.S. It's not a native plant and it took a lot of hard work to help kudzu spread so widely. It was introduced to the United States in 1876 at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Japanese government constructed a beautiful garden filled with plants from their country. The Kudzu, with its sweet-smelling blooms captured the American gardeners imagination. In the 1920s it was found that animals would eat the plant so it was promoted for forage usage. In the 1930 the Soil Conservation Service promoted kudzu for erosion control and was heavily planted during the Great Depression. In 1972 the plant was declared a weed.



Today, because of its prodigious, unchecked growth, it is considered a menace. People are finding new uses for Kudzu though. In a love/hate relationship, Kudzu is being used in recipes and basket making. Harvard School of Medicine is looking at the plant as a treatment for alcoholism. This story is given to say that Kudzu is becoming a new basket weaving material. Nancy Basket of Long Leaf, SC is using Kudzu to make baskets. It is her desire to show that Kudzu is a valuable plant. Visit her website to see her baskets and recipes for Kudzu Quiche and Kudzu Flower Jelly.

Oklahoma Weavers Weekend Update

Weavers Weekend will be here before we know it! There is still time to register for classes if you haven't had the opportunity to do that yet. Go to www.okbasketweaversguild.com/WeaversWeekend to see the catalog and sign up for classes. For those who have already registered, confirmation letters will start going out Sept. 7. Included in your class confirmation packet will be directions to the Shawnee Expo Center, a schedule of events, your class schedule with instructions to send in your teacher payments and a kit order form. Kits will be available to order if the teacher has agreed to the pre-ordering process.

I'm really looking forward to seeing you all there. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, Marcia Balleweg at 405-823-5073 or info@okbasketweaversguild.com.

KNOT IN THE HANDLE

"A knot in the handle brings good luck and assures that your basket will always be full, never empty. It may be full of love, and hope, good health and other things we oft times can not see, but never empty." Author Unknown. Taken from the website of The Country Seat.

Craft Booth Business

I have just moved my baskets from a craft mall in Yukon, OK to one that is on the upper floor of the Galleria Furniture Store in Oklahoma City. I am very excited to be doing the booth with several of my friends. We painted the booth a very bright blue. In the next week we will get everything moved in and hopefully sales will start. I was wondering if anyone else in the guild has placed baskets in craft malls for sale or museums for show and/or sale. If so please let me know and I will post it in the newsletter. Free advertisement always helps and we are interested in what people are doing with baskets. Contact Janet at: dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net.

Interesting Websites

The National Basketry Organization is the site to go to to see some very unusual baskets and art forms dealing with weaving techniques. They also have a store and list of events and museums around the country. www.nationalbasketry.org

When I was making reference to the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in this newsletter I went to their website to make sure I had the name right. I love history in the late 1800's. While at the website I clicked the Research Center and found many old pictures with descriptions of things like old log cabins, who owned them and other descriptive information. There is a lot of information on old movies as well. If you are like me, you never have time to look around the museum when we have guild meetings. Take time to get to know this museum and what is there. The website is wonderful for browsing. It also lists events and some unusual classes that are offered. The Research Center is where I found the pictures. Their website is www.nationalcowboymuseum.org. I would also like to say thank you to the museum for the support they have given the Basket Weavers Guild of Oklahoma over the years.

Available Basket Weaving Classes Around the State

- **Bethany:** Janet Newman (e-mail: dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net; phone: 405-789-4540) Janet teaches at *Francis-Tuttle Career Tech*.
- **Choctaw:** Julie Gates (e-mail: gatesjulie@mcloudteleco.com; phone: 405-305-1313 or 405-391-5498) Julie teaches at the Eastern Oklahoma County Technology Center.
- **Duncan:** Karen Scott (e-mail: klsweave@gmail.com; phone: 580-252-4711) Karen will be offering classes the last 2 Saturdays of June, July and August.. Her classes are held at the *First United Methodist Church* in Duncan.
- **Edmond:** Rena Vickery (e-mail: rscmv1958@cox.net; phone: 405-285-6643) Rena teaches at the Edmond "Mac" Center.
- **Hinton:** Paulene Asbury (e-mail: habasketry@cox.net; phone: 405-722-1186)
Pauline teaches at the Buffalo Ranch in Hinton the 2nd Tuesday of each month. You can check on her classes at [facebook.com/habasketry](https://www.facebook.com/habasketry).
- **Wellston:** Marcia Balleweg (e-mail: marcia@oklahomabasketsupply.com)



BasketWeavers Guild
of Oklahoma
3401 Eagle Lane
Bethany, OK 73008

Phone (405)789-4540
dnjn3227@sbcglobal.net

Inside The August Issue:

Words from the President

Ode to The Spell Checker

Schedule of Events

Legend of the Kuduz Vine

Weavers Weekend Update

Craft Booth Business

Our History—A Walk Down Memory Lane